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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

SPOT COMMENTARY

DIRECTORATE OF INTELLIGENCE

17 January 1991
1830 EST

Iraq-Kuwait: Situation Report #478

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Approved for Release
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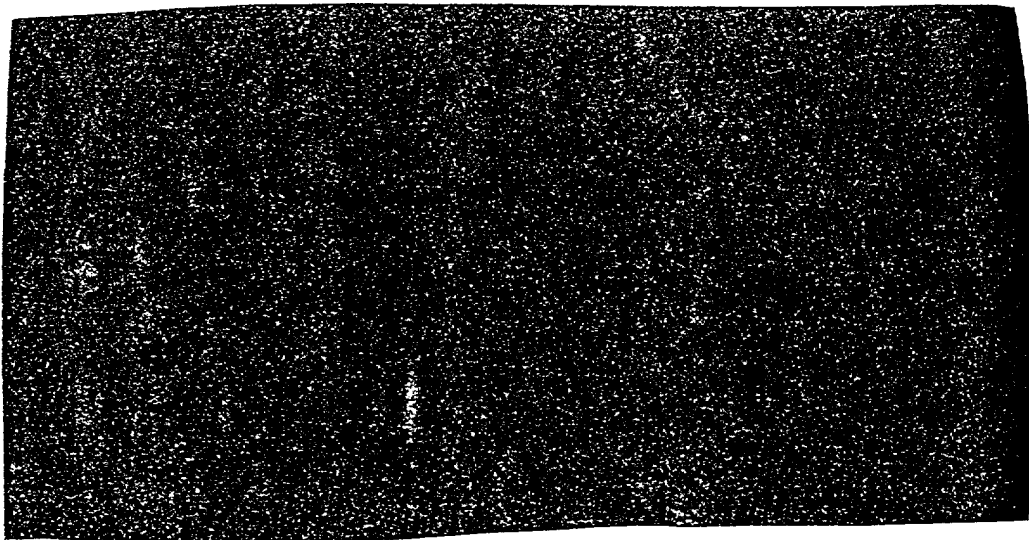
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Israel: Cautious Response to War

Prime Minister Shamir and Defense Minister Arens publicly stated that they were encouraged by yesterday's events. Arens passed on a message to US diplomats in Tel Aviv that "the US has lived up to its word," but he expressed concern that the Iraqi Scud force may not have been neutralized. A military spokesman said yesterday that Tel Aviv still expects an Iraqi reaction against Israel. Schools and most work places were closed yesterday, and a curfew remains in effect on the West Bank, Gaza Strip, and many Arab neighborhoods in East Jerusalem. The occupied territories have been quiet, as most Palestinians have heeded the curfew and stern warnings from Israeli officials.

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